

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2006



**Bear Creek Bridge
Onslow County
TIP No. B-3217
CAMA permit No. 24-04**



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SUMMARY

The Bear Creek Bridge Mitigation Site (B-3217) is located in Onslow County. This is an annual report for temporary impacts associated with bridge replacement of Bridge No. 21 over Bear Creek on SR 1503. The site was completed in May 2006.

The temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.85 acres. The area that was impacted is being monitored to ensure that it re-attains wetland jurisdictional status. No hydrologic monitoring is required for this site; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the first year of monitoring, the Bear Creek Bridge site shows by visual observation that the temporarily impacted area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

NCDOT recommends continuing vegetation monitoring of this site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Bear Creek Bridge Site (B-3217) is located in Onslow County. This is an annual report for temporary impacts associated with bridge replacement of Bridge No. 21 over Bear Creek on SR 1503 (Figure 1).

1.2 Purpose

In order for a temporarily impacted site to be considered successful, the site must re-attain wetland jurisdictional status. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2006 at the Bear Creek Bridge site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for this site.

1.3 Project History

May 2006	Project Completed
September 2006	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: BEAR CREEK BRIDGE SITE (YEAR 1 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Due to the possibility that compaction, mechanized clearing, and/or other site alterations might prevent the temporary wetland impact area from re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status, the permittee shall provide an annual update on the wetland areas temporarily impacted by this project. This annual update will consist of photographs and a brief report on the progress of the temporarily impacted areas. After three years of monitoring, the permittee shall schedule a field meeting with DCM, DWQ, and WRC to determine if the temporarily impacted areas have re-attained jurisdictional wetland status. If at the end of three years the area has not re-attained jurisdictional wetland status, NC DCM and the above listed agencies shall determine whether a compensatory wetland mitigation plan will be required.

2.2 Description of Species

Sawgrass and Black Needle Rush were planted for the temporary fill impacts but the mechanized clearing areas were left to revegetate naturally.

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

Species noted in temporary impact area are as follows: cattails, black needle rush, sawgrass, fennel, ragweed, tulip poplar, goldenrod, queen ann's lace, trumpet creeper, green ash, black willow, smartweed, wax myrtle, woolgrass, red maple, pine, *Sagittaria* sp., sweetgum, alder, and various grasses.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.85 acres of temporary impacts on site. By visual observation Bear Creek Bridge site shows that the planted species are surviving and natural re-vegetation is occurring. The impacted areas are re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status.

3.0 Overall Conclusions and Recommendations

NCDOT will continue vegetation monitoring at the Bear Creek Bridge Site.

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Bear Creek Bridge



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6

September 2006

Bear Creek Bridge



Photo 7